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SAISS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
AUTOMATED INFORMATION
SYSTEMS SECURITY

SAISS-027-85
WG#1-002-85
19 June 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY (SAISS)

SUBJECT: SAISS Annual Evaluation Report, Working Group No.1
Survey

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1. In accordance with NSDD 145 and in coordination with your participation as a SAISS representative, the Annual Evaluation Report Working Group (WG#1) is initiating action toward the required annual report of the status of computer security within the federal government. Rather than a formal data call, WG#1 has decided to conduct a more informal, person-to-person discussion with representatives from each department/agency represented as either a member or an observer on the SAISS. We think this opportunity for an iterative discussion should be of benefit to both your parent organization and to our purpose. A list of questions is enclosed to help you prepare for this personal interview; as this interview is not a data call, you are not obliged to submit formal written answers. We would, however, appreciate any efforts on your behalf which will help us to publish a better, more quantitative report than that of last year.

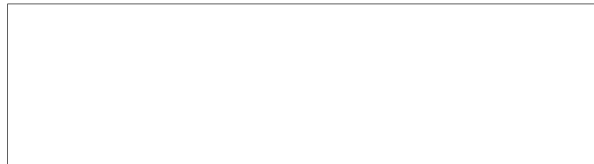
3. The Working Group members would much appreciate your support in providing us with an opportunity to speak with representatives from your policy, technical, security and operational staffs familiar with your ADP operations, or, with whomever you believe can best represent your agency in answering the types of questions we have enclosed. The Working Group as a whole believes the numbers of representatives should be kept to a minimum in order to maximize the time available. Our objective is to report to the NTISSC on the status of automated information systems security in the government. In obtaining our objective we expect to gain an understanding of the computer security process within the federal government, and, of the process's strengths and weaknesses as a basis for developing future common initiatives. As a result of this interview process, we also hope to develop an optimal set of questions that can be included in next year's version of OMB Bulletin 85-11 data call.

4. To safeguard your interests and the obvious political sensitivities involved, let me assure you that our final report will not "wash your laundry" in public. You and your representatives to the NTISSC will have the opportunity to review, comment, and approve the final report. All of your detailed answers will remain within the Secretariat and will not be released without both your and the SAISS Chairman's written permission.

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5. We have scheduled your organization's session at the IC [] as indicated on the interview schedule, Enclosure 2. Included for your information is enclosure 3, the list of Working Group members (or organization) who will be participating as the interview team. The teams would appreciate advance word on how you plan to present information, i.e., a briefing, etc. Should you need alternate interview arrangements, we shall attempt to provide them. Please call and confirm all arrangements with the Secretariat, 688-7736 or 972-2633(secure). As our discussion with you might generate additional questions, we ask your cooperation in advance for any follow-up questions.

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Chairman
Working Group No.1
Subcommittee on Automated
Information Systems Security

Encl:
a/s

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Chairman, SAISS

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